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Hartlepool Port Health Authority

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH

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For the Year Ended 31st December,  
1949.

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By JOHN CRABB,  
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.T.M. & H., D.R.C.O.G.



Hartlepool Port Health Authority

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# Hartlepool Port Health Authority 1949/50.

CHAIRMAN - - T. BREWARD

## Elected by West Hartlepool Corporation :

- P. M. WILLIAMS, 52 Fernwood Avenue, West Hartlepool.  
T. W. PINKNEY, "Greenbank," Manor Road, West Hartlepool.  
T. V. OLDFIELD (Mayor), 175 Park Road, West Hartlepool.  
T. BREWARD, 37 Wharton Terrace, West Hartlepool.  
B. H. ARNISON, 18 Penrhyn Street, West Hartlepool.  
W. G. COWARD, 7 Eamont Gardens, West Hartlepool.  
G. W. GROVES, 57 Waverley Terrace, West Hartlepool.  
E. HAND, 94 Weldeck Road, West Hartlepool.  
J. McCANN, 18 St. Pauls Road, West Hartlepool.  
T. N. HORSMAN, 169 Grange Road, West Hartlepool.

## Elected by Hartlepool Corporation :

- F. J. CARR, J.P., Piercliffe, St. Hilda's Street, Hartlepool.  
J. STEVENSON, 8 Gibb Square, Hartlepool.  
T. T. AIRD, Brunswick Hotel, Hartlepool.  
A. J. ORLEY, 202, Hart Road, Hartlepool.  
G. V. PAPE, 4 Albion Terrace, Hartlepool.

## Fixed Days of Meetings

*At the Municipal Buildings, West Hartlepool*

June 16th, 1949.	Dec. 8th, 1949.	April 20th, 1950.
Sept. 15th, 1949.	Feb. 16th, 1950.	June 15th, 1950.

*Each day at 6.15 p.m.*

## Finance and Port Committees :

All the members of the Authority are Members of these Committees.

*The Committees meet at 6 p.m. on the same day as the bi-monthly meeting is held.*

## Officers

Clerk .. .. .	C. GILBERT BUNTING, Solicitor, Exchange Building, 66 Church Street, West Hartlepool. Telephone No. 3132—3.
Medical Officer .. .	J. CRABB, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.T.M. & H., D.R.C.O.G., 221, Stockton Road, West Hartlepool. Telephone No. 3044.
Deputy Medical Officer	G. O. MORSE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., 221 Stockton Road, West Hartlepool.
Inspector .. .. .	R. J. KNOTT, Royal Chambers, Church Street, West Hartlepool. Telephone No. 2015.
Deputy Inspector .. .	G. A. WARD, 12 Beaconsfield Street, Hartlepool. Telephone No. 6112.
Rat Catcher .. .. .	H. MENHENNET, 19 Penrith St., Hartlepool.



# ANNUAL REPORT

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WEST HARTLEPOOL.

**To the Chairman and Members of the  
Hartlepool Port Health Authority.**

Gentlemen,

In compliance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1949.

During the year there has been a slight decrease in the number of vessels entering the port, 1,313 vessels as against 1,350 in 1948 ; of the vessels entering the port, 525 were from foreign ports (including 225 fishing vessels) and 788 were coastwise.

There has been a decrease in the timber imports but an increase in the export of coal ; the timber imports being 307,234 loads as against 384,008 loads for 1948, and the coal exports being 2,142,099 tons as against 2,088,703 tons in 1948.

No case of infectious disease has occurred and the ordinary sickness incidence has remained as for previous years.

Accommodation on new vessels is satisfactory, and in most cases excellent, but that in the older vessels still leaves much to be desired. In the coasting vessels which retain the same crew for fairly long periods the standard of hygiene maintained is very high, especially in those vessels in which the men are supplied with their food by the owners.

Work under the International Sanitary Convention of Paris and the Deratisation of Ships Regulations has resulted in the issue of 50 certificates as compared with 66 in 1948, a decrease of 16.

The work carried out by your Inspector, his deputy and the rat-catcher has been to my entire satisfaction, and the Inspector's work is given in detail in the report.

In accordance with the suggestion of the Ministry of Health the permanent arrangements fully described in the annual report for 1947 regarding " Port Health Regulations 1933 and 1945 " and " Measures against Rodents " have been omitted from the report with the exception of the paragraph regarding mooring stations.

In conclusion I desire to express my thanks for the valuable assistance given to me by the Chief Preventive Officer of H.M. Customs and his Staff, to Captain Stathers, M.B.E., and his assistant dockmasters, to the Ministry of Transport Surveyor, to Mr. Rose, H.M. Immigration Officer and also to the Pilot Master and Pilots for their hearty co-operation with the officials of this Authority.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN CRABB,

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.T.M. & H., D.R.C.O.G.

Port Medical Officer of Health.

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1. Amount of Shipping Entering the Port during the Year 1949.

Table A. (*Ministry of Health*)

	Number	Tonnage	No. inspected		Number reported to be Defective	No. of Vessels on which defects were found and reported to Ministry of Trans. Surveyors	No. of Vessels reported as having or having had, during the voyage infectious diseases on board
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Health Inspector			
From Foreign { Steamers Motor Sailing.. Fishing	165	216,231	27	164	21	21	
	135	29,426	13	135	—	—	
	225	7,023	4	165			
Total Foreign ..	525	252,680	44	464	21	21	
From Coast-wise { Steamers Motor .. Sailing Fishing	647	749,731	13	627	16	16	
	141	97,624	7	124	—	—	
Total Coastwise ..	788	847,355	20	751	16	16	
Total Foreign and Coastwise	1,313	1,100,035	64	1,215	37	37	

The following table shows the number of vessels of each nationality inspected :—

British .. .. .	773
Belgian .. .. .	2
Canadian .. .. .	1
Chilean .. .. .	1
Danish .. .. .	174
Dutch .. .. .	118
Finnish .. .. .	25
French .. .. .	1
German .. .. .	22
Greek .. .. .	4
Italian .. .. .	1
Libanese .. .. .	1
Norwegian .. .. .	21
Panamaian .. .. .	8
Polish .. .. .	1
Russian .. .. .	2
Swedish .. .. .	57
Swiss .. .. .	2
Yugoslavian .. .. .	1

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1,215

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## II. CHARACTER OF TRADE OF PORT

Table B. (*Ministry of Health*)

(a) **Passenger Traffic during 1949 :—**

No. of Passengers	1st Class	2nd Class	3rd Class	Trans- migrants
Inwards .. .. .	81	Nil	Nil	Nil
Outwards .. .. .	67	Nil	Nil	Nil

This is not an approved Passenger Port and there is therefore no regular passenger traffic. Certain passengers are allowed to land subject to certain restrictions imposed by H.M. Immigration Office. The following information has been supplied by H.M. Immigration Officer, West Hartlepool :

Alien Passengers embarked ..	34
Alien Passengers landed ..	17

(b) **Cargo Traffic :—**

The figures given below indicate the nature and amount of the principal trade done in the port during the year 1949 :—

Description	Imports			Exports	
	Loads	Tons	cwts	Tons	cwts
Wood & Manufactures thereof :					
Ash, Beech, Birch, etc.	266	..	..	..	..
Battens, Boards, Deals, etc.	95,803	..	..	..	..
Sleepers	6,126	..	..	..	..
Pit Props	202,390	..	..	..	..
All other kinds of timber	2,649	..	..	..	..
Iron & Steel Manufactures	..	35,621	..	..	..
Miscellaneous Goods	..	17,024	15	..	..
Ore .. .. .	..	23,835	..	..	..
Total Imports	307,234	76,480	15	..	..
Coal, Coke, etc. (including bunker coal)				2,142,099	..
Total of Imports and Exports	307,234	76,480	15	2,142,099	..

The above particulars have been supplied through the courtesy of Mr. J. S. Wood, Secretary to the Hartlepool Port and Harbour Commissioners.

(c) **Foreign Ports from which vessels arrive :—**

Cargo	Foreign Ports
Props ..	St. John, South Nelson, Bridgewater, Chatham, Digby, Campbelltown, Millbank, Newcastle, Gamleby, Gaspé, Caraquet, Fiume, Kemi, Archangel, Vasa, Jacobstad, Mantylouto, Leningrad, Sibenik, Stettin, Karlshamm, Oscarshamm, Vesternik, Warnemunde, Aarhus, Kalmar, Norrköping, Bolskernes, Yxpila, Stockholm, Hamina, Kotka, Uleaborg, Toppila, Falkenburg, Hamburg, Abo, Vesteras, Haukipudas, Gothenburg, Norrbälfe, Brakestad, Verkebeke, Frederikshavn, Sodestälje.

<i>Cargo</i>	<i>Foreign Ports</i>
Timber ..	Vancouver, Port Alberni, Victoria, Fiume, Wismar, Ottobacken, Lillesund, Porsgrund, Gdynia, Skien, Rotterdam, Kristine, Sundsvall, Valkon, Jacobstad, Hango, Norresundet, Raumo, Helmsund, Stagsund, Pitea, Archangel, Warnemunde, Karlstad, Harnosund, Ktistianshamm, Gothenburg.
Mahogany Logs ..	Dakar,
Wood Pulp	Kotka, Raumo, Munksund, Gothenburg, Toppila.
Sleepers	Warnemunde, Gothenburg.
Wallboard	Norrkoping.
Iron ore	Narvik, Oxelosund.
Scrap ..	Emden, Kiel, Hamburg, Wilhelmshaven, Rotterdam.
Machinery	Bremen.

Vessels arriving light came from :—

Rotterdam, Hamburg, Calais, Brake, Esberg, Rouen, Ymuiden, Hirtshal, Haltenau.

### III. SOURCE OF WATER SUPPLY

As printed in Annual Report for 1947.

## IV. PORT HEALTH REGULATIONS, 1933—1945

Paragraphs 1, 2 & 3 as printed in Annual Report for 1947.

4. Mooring Stations designated under Art. 10 :

(a) Within the Docks. (b) Outside the Docks.

(a) Owing to the removal of the Central Dock buoys an alternative Mooring station is being arranged.

(b) Outside the docks—at the buoys in the Outer Harbour.

Paragraphs 5 to 11 as printed in Annual Report for 1947.

TABLE C. (*Ministry of Health*)

Cases of Infectious Sickness landed from Vessels

Disease	No. of Cases during 1949		No. of Vessels concerned	Av. No. of Cases for prev. 5 years
	Passenger	Crew		
Chicken Pox ..	..	..	..	..
Continued Fever	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria ..	..	..	..	..
Dysentery ..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas ..	..	..	..	..
Malaria ..	..	..	..	·4
Measles ..	..	..	..	..
Pneumonia ..	..	..	..	..
Relapsing Fever	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever ..	..	..	..	·2
Small Pox ..	..	..	..	..
Tuberculosis ..	..	..	..	..
Typhoid Fever ..	..	..	..	·4
Typhus Fever	..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	..	..	1·0

No case of Plague, Cholera, Yellow Fever, Smallpox or Typhus Fever has occurred on any vessel arriving in the port during the period. Rats sent for bacteriological examination were found to be free from Plague infection.

**TABLE D.** (*Ministry of Health*)

**Cases of Infectious Sickness occurring on Vessels during the voyage but disposed of prior to arrival.**

Disease	No. of Cases during 1949		No. of Vessels concerned	Av. No. of Cases for prev. 5 years
	Passenger	Crew		
Chicken Pox ..	..	..	..	..
Continued Fever ..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria ..	..	..	..	..
Dysentery ..	..	..	..	·2
Erysipelas ..	..	..	..	..
Malaria ..	..	..	..	..
Measles ..	..	..	..	..
Pneumonia ..	..	..	..	..
Relapsing Fever ..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever ..	..	..	..	..
Smallpox ..	..	..	..	..
Tuberculosis ..	..	..	..	..
Typhoid Fever ..	..	..	..	..
Typhus Fever ..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	..	..	..	·2

**Cases of sickness which occurred on vessels in the Port during the year.**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Name of Vessel</i>	<i>Nationality</i>	<i>Nature of sickness</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Jan. 10	S.S. "Carbonia"	Swedish	Injured thumb.	Treated on board.
Jan. 17	S.S. "Holburn Head"	British	Blackouts	Removed for observation.
Feb. 7	S.S. "Moses Gay"	British	Septic Hand	Treated on board.
Feb. 12	S.S. "Stevns"	Danish	Lacerated chin	Treated on board
Feb. 12	S.S. "Stevns"	Danish	Internal injuries	Removed to hospital
Mar. 5	S.S. "Springfjord"	British	Mental	Removed to hospital
Mar. 10	S.S. "Rangemoor"	British	Died, natural causes	Body removed
April 16	S.S. "Barbo"	Swedish	Septic hand	Treated on board
April 16	S.S. "Barbo"	Swedish	Lacerated scalp	Treated on board
May 3	M.V. "Titania"	Danish	Septic hand	Treated at hospital
May 5	M.V. "Baunholm"	Danish	Appendicitis	Removed to hospital
May 5	M.V. "Baunholm"	Danish	Septic hand	Treated at hospital
May 5	M.V. "Niels Aaen"	Danish	Lacerated scalp	Treated on board
June 20	S.S. "Danapris"	Greek	Eye injury	Attended hospital
July 7	S.S. "Baron Graham"	British	Poisoned arm	Treated on board
July 18	S.S. "Lesto"	British	Arthritis	Removed to Hospital
Sept. 5	S.S. "Hawkwood"	British	Gastric trouble	Landed at London
Sept. 29	M.V. "Fryken"	Swedish	Cold	Treated on board
" "	" "	"	Boils	Treated on board
" "	" "	"	Catarrh	Treated on board
Oct. 5	S.S. "Vilk"	British	Gastric ulcer	Removed to hospital
Oct. 11	M.V. "Fryken"	Swedish	Cold	Treated on board
Oct. 21	M.V. "John Nyborg"	Danish	Suspected blood p's'ing	Removed to hospital
Oct. 31	S.S. "Nordnes"	Norwegian	Ear trouble	Attended hospital



<i>Date</i>	<i>Name of Vessel</i>	<i>Nationality</i>	<i>Nature of Sickness</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Nov. 1	S.S. "Snar"	Norwegian	Nasal Catarrh	Treated on board
Nov. 1	S.S. "Leon de Nervo"	British	Pyorrhoea	Treated on board
" "	" "	"	Colic	Treated on board
" "	" "	"	Influenza	Treated on board
Nov. 4	M.V. "Fryken"	Swedish	Cold	Treated on board
" "	" "	"	Catarrh	Treated on board
Nov. 14	M.V. "Fryken"	Swedish	Cold	Treated on board
" "	" "	"	Boils	Treated on board
Nov. 30	S.S. "Cara"	British	Influenza	Treated on board
Nov. 30	S.S. "Carbonia"	Swedish	Injured back	Treated on board
Dec. 2	M.V. "Fryken"	Swedish	Catarrh	Treated on board
" "	" "	"	Cold	Treated on board
Dec. 24	S.S. "Galatea"	Norwegian	Tonsilitis	Treated on board

Seamen suffering from venereal disease were referred to the clinic at West Hartlepool for treatment.

## V. MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS

As printed in Annual Report for 1947.



## RATS DESTROYED DURING THE YEAR 1949.

TABLE E. (*Ministry of Health*)

(1) On Vessels

Number of	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total in Year
Black Rats ..	18	..	8	1	..	3	..	11	5	—	27	..	73
Brown Rats ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Species not recorded ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rats examined Bacteriologically ..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	1	1	..	1	..	6
Rats infected with Plague ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

7 Mice were also caught and destroyed.

# RATS DESTROYED DURING THE YEAR 1949.

TABLE F. (*Ministry of Health*)  
(2) In Docks, Quays, Wharves and Warehouses

Number of	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total in Year
Black Rats ..	17	11	10	10	7	20	10	10	15	10	9	10	139
Brown Rats ..	2	..	6	..	..	3	7	2	..	10	..	5	35
Species not recorded ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rats examined ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rats infected with Plague	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

**TABLE G. (*Ministry of Health*)**

Measures of Rat Destruction on Plague "infected" or "suspected" Vessels, or Vessels from plague infected ports arriving in the Port during the year.

Total Number of such Vessels arriving	Number of such vessels fumigated by SO <sub>2</sub>	Number of Rats killed	Number of such Vessels fumigated by HCN	Number of Rats killed	Number of such Vessels on which trapping, poisoning, etc., were employed	Number of Rats killed	Number of such Vessels on which measures of Rat destruction were not carried out
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

**TABLE H\* (*Ministry of Health*)**

Deratisation Certificates and Deratisation Exemption Certificates issued during the year.

Net Tonnage	No. OF DERATISATION CERTIFICATES ISSUED							Total Certificates Issued
	No. of Ships	After fumigation with		After Trapping Poison- ing, etc.	Total	No. of Deratisa- tion Exemption Certificates Issued		
		H.C.N.	Sulphur					
							H.C.N. and Sulphur	
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.
Ships up to 300 tons Ships from 301 tons to 1,000 tons Ships from 1001 tons to 3000 tons Ships from 3001 tons to 10000 tons Ships over 10,000 tons	11	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	11	11
	8	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	8	8
	20	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	20	20
	11	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	9	11
	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Totals	50	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	48	50

\*Applicable only to those Ports approved by the Minister of Health for the issue of Deratisation Certificates and Deratisation Exemption Certificates in accordance with the provision of Article 28 of the International Sanitary Convention, 1926. (Form Port II.)

## VI. HYGIENE OF CREWS' SPACES

**TABLE J.** (*Ministry of Health*)

### Classification of Nuisances

Nationality of Vessel	Number Inspected during the year	Defects of Original Construction	Structural Defects through wear and tear	Dirt, Vermin and other conditions prejudicial to Health
British . . . .	773	0	15	20
Other Nations	442	0	2	9

The above table is a classification of Nuisances and Defects found to exist on 1,215 vessels inspected during the year. The nuisances or sanitary defects were mainly composed of dirty or verminous quarters, defective W.C's., and flush pipes, leaking decks and hawse pipes, defective port lights etc. All these nuisances have been, or are in the process of being, abated.

**1. Action taken** under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1925, Public Health (Imported Food) Amendment Regulations, 1933, The Imported Milk Regulations, 1926, and the Public Health (Preservatives in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1927.

There has been very little importation of food and no necessity to take action under the above regulations.

**2. Shell Fish.** Information respecting any shell-fish beds or layings within the jurisdiction of the Port Health Authority, stating whether they are, in the opinion of the Medical Officer of

Health, liable to pollution. Report of any action under the Public Health (Shell Fish) Regulations, 1915, or the Public Health (Shell Fish) Regulations, 1934.

There are no Shell Fish beds or layings under the jurisdiction of this Authority. There are, however, Mussels, Winkles and Cockles, which can be picked from dock gates, walls and rocks, and which are liable to pollution from sewage. For this reason warning notices are posted from time to time drawing the attention of the public to the dangerous consequences arising from the consumption of such shell fish.

Fresh fish is landed at the Fish Quay, Hartlepool, where it is inspected by the Hartlepool Medical Officer and the Sanitary Inspector. Unsold fish and fish offal are removed to a factory at Hull for conversion to fish meal, etc.

### **3. Number of Samples of Food examined by :**

(a) **Bacteriologist**—Nature of sample. Result of examination

(b) **Analyst**—Nature of sample. Result of examination

There has not been any necessity to submit any samples of food for examination during 1949.

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